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To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/23/02 8:59am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello,

I have been an active professional in the computing field for the last 7 years, largely supporting Microsoft products in enterprise environments. During this time, it seems that all major 'innovations' by microsoft have actually been the co-opting of others initial work, and then 'building it in to the operating system'. The web browser is one of these 'innovations'. Digital media players is another. Web servers is another, and the list could go on and on, but the real point of this is that with Microsoft's dominant position, they can absorb ANY idea, change it a little, and then build it in to their desktop. This has a rather stifling effect on the 'little' guys, and has indeed given impetus to Open Licensing, and Free Software. If Microsoft put the effort into Security, rather than 'market dominance', we would all be better off.

The remedy proposed recently does not effectively deal with the reality of the situation. I am opposed to it in it's current incarnation.

Thank you,

Tom Felts

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